

THE SHELTON CHRONICLE

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a newsletter for faculty and staff

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESPONDS TO ACHE - News Release from Postsecondary Education

The Alabama State Board of Education is disappointed in several of the actions taken by ACHE. By these actions, ACHE has attempted to usurp the Board's governing authority for Alabama's two-year colleges. There can be and is only one Board of Trustees for these institutions, and that is the Alabama State Board of Education.

ACHE's efforts to close seven instructional sites approved by the Board do a disservice to Alabamians who seek to improve their standard of living through education and training. The primary focus of the Alabama College System as determined by the Board is accessible, quality educational

opportunities. ACHE's actions would deny many taxpayers in Alabama the opportunity to receive quality, affordable education.

ACHE's referral of various matters to the Attorney General is a direct attack on the State Board and is unnecessarily confrontational and overreaching. The Board has made repeated attempts to resolve the statutory conflict between itself and ACHE, but ACHE has not been willing to engage in meaningful discussions. ACHE's efforts endanger the accreditation of Alabama's two-year colleges.

The State Board is the constitutional governing body for the two-year colleges and faithfully discharges its obligations to manage those institutions so as to provide accountability to the taxpayers and voters of the state. The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that the State Board exercise full and final authority over its institutions without interference from external agencies.

In his correspondence with SACS, the Governor has affirmed the State Board of Education as the final governing authority for the two-year colleges. The Governor also asserts that the legislature intended the State Board to be the ultimate authority in the governance of Alabama's two-year colleges. In the last regular session of the legislature, both houses enacted resolutions commending and encouraging the State Board to discharge its duties.

The State Board of Education, elected by the voters of this state, is committed to serving their educational needs and will not allow outside agencies to restrict their access to training and education.

Shelton begins new building construction trades program

When David Sanders retired last spring after 27 years as building superintendent with Dunn construction Company, he knew he wanted to stay busy doing something. After all, he had been involved in the construction of some of the state's largest building projects, including the University of Alabama's Student Recreational Center.

A friend told him Shelton was looking for an instructor for a new program in the construction trades, and he thought this might be something he would like to do. The result was a perfect match between Sanders and the college's new construction technology program.

"This fall we will offer Introduction to Construction," Sanders says. "This program will include home building, blue print reading, site development and carpentry and will run four days a week from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Next semester, we hope to add plumbing and masonry to the program. This will open the door to commercial and industrial instruction," Sanders says.

One interesting development is the newly-formed partnership between Shelton and the Alabama Department of Human Resources. Although Tuscaloosa County has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state, the county has a 20% poverty rate. "What this tells us is that there are a large number of people working in minimum wage positions and as a result are living in poverty," Sanders says.

As part of the new program with DHR, welfare-to-work recipients will enter a short six-

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week course that will teach them various construction skills, such as caulking, sheet rock prep, painting, etc. People with these skills, according to Sanders, do punch-out or minor touch-up work at the end of a construction job.

"Since these jobs pay between \$7.50 and \$12 an hour, we thought that people in the welfare-to-work program could develop skills that will give them an occupation where they can earn a living. Another major benefit is that students completing this short program will have the skills they will need to improve their own living conditions," Sanders says.

"We will take 15 or 16 students in the course. Shelton is a pioneer with this short welfare-to-work course. I don't know anyone else who is doing anything like this. The Tuscaloosa Home Builders have been extremely supportive in this program. All of the classes in the construction technology program will be taught on the C.A. Fredd Campus," he said.

FACES 'N PLACES

***GLINDA BLACKSHEAR** presented new choral publications to her colleagues in the Alabama Choral Directors Association during their summer convention. This year ACDA joined with the Alabama Vocal Association to present a workshop as well as reading sessions for quality repertoire. Mrs. Blackshear served as chair for two-year colleges on the ACDA board for the past four years.

*Shelton State's general information brochure won third place in state competition during the recent Alabama College System Public Relations Association annual summer meeting.

RICK SHELTON, LUCY KUBISZYN, and alumni member DEBORAH MINOR of Total Concept Advertising Company were responsible for the production of the brochure. Photography was by **BARRY FIKES**.

***HOMEcoming WEEK** will be October 26-29. The Shelton State Alumni Association will host a bonfire and other activities on Thursday, October 29. A committee will begin work in September on homecoming activities. If you or your

organization would like to be involved, contact Lucy Kubiszyn, ext. 2221, or Rick Rogers, ext. 2472.

***The National Bank of Commerce** will be at Shelton State August 24 - 27. NBC will host a reception at 9:15 a.m. for faculty and staff following a convocation on Monday, August 17.

***IT'S THE HOTTEST TICKET IN TOWN!** The Shelton State Foundation hosts the annual Barbecue Bash on Thursday, September 17. The evening's activities include bingo and a barbecue dinner. There will also be a silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and include dinner and four bingo cards. All proceeds benefit the Shelton State Foundation and provide scholarships for students. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Foundation office, 391-2298.

*Are you ready for the new Millennium? Shelton State will kick off a year of exciting events and activities beginning in January 1999 in celebration of the upcoming Millennium. If you have some activities you would like included on the Millennium Calendar, contact the public relations office, 391-2221.

CONTINUING OUR EDUCATION

Between 700 - 1000 students enroll each semester in non-credit classes at Shelton, making the college's continuing education program one of the largest in the state.

One of the most popular areas of non-credit classes are those for senior adults, and these programs vary in length and content. People from the community may choose the statewide Senior Scholarship program, they may participate in certain classes offered through the wellness program, or they may join the Lifetime Learning Institute.

The Lifetime Learning Institute is for people 55 years of age and over. A board of directors serves in an advisory capacity, and the Institute sponsors non-credit classes, forums, seminars, and other special events. The board meets on a regular basis during the year and has formed active committees. The Institute is growing, according to president Jean

O'Connor Snyder, and the college hopes to have over 150 members on board this year.

For a yearly \$10 membership fee plus a \$35 semester fee, members can take all of the classes offered through the Institute, including classes in antiques, current events, archaeology, financial planning, computers. Seven short seminars, with a cost of \$10 each, will also be offered. For more information, call ext. 2386.

Legislature Passes Bills that Impact System

***ACT 98-147:** Requires public school systems and certain other public educational institutions in the state to post notices of personnel vacancies before filling a position.

***ACT 98-193:** Provides a one-time retirement incentive bonus payment of \$12,500 for state employees who have satisfied the age and service requirements for retirement with a benefit, and who retire after July 1, 1998, and before October 2, 1998. The bonus payment will be paid in equal quarterly installments ending September 30, 1999.

***ACT 98-194:** Provides a one-time retirement incentive payment for up to 150 days of accrued and unused sick leave for state employees who have satisfied the age and service requirements for retirement with a benefit, and who retire after July 1, 1998, and before October 2, 1998. Payment for sick leave will be paid in equal quarterly installments ending September 30, 1999.

Where were you in the '70's?

This month's mystery lyric from the '70's is:

*"They got a name for the winners in the world,
And I want a name when I lose
They call Alabama the Crimson Tide."*

Call ext. 2310 to leave the name of the song and artist. Be sure to leave your name too. Deadline to call is 5 p.m. on August 18.